

# Governor's Council on Agriculture Education

## Meeting Minutes December 13, 2016

The meeting of the Governor's Council on Agriculture Education was called to order by Pradeep Kotamraju of the Iowa Department of Education at 2:05pm on Tuesday, December 13, 2016 at the FFA Enrichment Center in Ankeny, Iowa.

### Present:

Members: Caitlin Remington, Larry Marek, Brea Harms, Will Fett, Deann Sindergard (by phone), Kent Klemme (by phone), and Kala Miller (by phone).

Ex officio members: Pradeep Kotamraju

Guests: Dr. Robert Martin and Scott Johnson

Absent: Sue Benning and Dale Gruis

Dr. Martin provided some history on the Governor's Council. The Iowa Code establishing the makeup and duties of the Council is available here:

<https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/iacode/1999supplement/256/32.html>

1. Held public hearings at six sites all around Iowa (six districts) with ag teachers, etc. in early 1990s. Focus was HS level. The structure of this district system used by the Iowa FFA Alumni and Iowa Association of Agriculture Educators can be found here:
  - a. <http://www.iowaffa.com/chapterlocator.aspx> ("About" drop menu at our homepage, select "Chapter Locator") for an interactive map of FFA Chapters. There are six colors of "flags" on the map, each represents a district: Northeast, North Central, Northwest, Southeast, South Central, Southwest
  - b. Six FFA districts, 232 FFA chapters, more than 14,000 FFA members
2. Planned and conducted Summit on Ag Ed (Mid 90s)
3. Wrote and distribute the Grand Plan for Ag Ed in Iowa
4. Developed Council Awards Program
  - a. Using Science in ag
  - b. Use of an advisory committee
  - c. Adult education
  - d. Marketing the program
  - e. Career awareness
5. Planned and conducted second summit on Ag Ed (circa 2000)
6. Developed document describing the components of a quality program on Ag Ed in secondary schools in Iowa
  - a. <http://iaffa.bizland.com/sitebuildercontent/sitebuilderfiles/GuidelinesforQualityHSAgEdPrograms.doc>
7. Studied and made recommendations for Supervised Agriculture Education programs (SAEs)
  - a. The current status of this (2016 annual report and 2017 student survey to collect data) can be found at: <http://www.iowaffa.com/annualreport.aspx> ("About" drop menu at our homepage, select "Annual Report"). **NOTE:** the student survey asks for the name, which is only done for local use to track

completion of the survey within the program. Names are removed when aggregating data.

8. Annual SAE report for FFA Association
9. Conducted Task Force on Ag Ed--focused on recruiting and retaining teachers
10. Wrote, approved, and distributed Task Force report

Pradeep called for nominations from the group to elect a chair. **Will Fett was nominated and elected chair viva voce.**

#### Potential topics of work

1. Awards
2. SAEs
  - a. Possible connection to Governor's Registered Apprenticeship (connecting SAE initiatives; \$1.8M in Iowa from Dept. of Labor...expanding apprenticeships? Pre-apprenticeship?
3. Teacher Recruitment and Retention (see attached report from Jan. 2016)
  - a. Evaluating the process to license CTE/Ag teachers. Can we make it easier?
  - b. Promote student loan forgiveness programs for ag teachers
  - c. Work with IAAE to implement State Teach Ag Results (STAR) grant \$8K
4. Quality program standards
  - a. Ag Teacher Extended contracts

#### Discussion on awards

1. Difficult to get kids to do this type of thing
2. Timing is difficult--kids are busy at end of year, etc.
3. Award nominations go to the chapter president
4. Good program....great opportunity to showcase the chapter
5. Note: Recognizes Ag Ed program versus FFA chapter
6. Things to evaluate
  - a. Who nominates?
  - b. Format (hard copy versus online)
  - c. Timing of application
  - d. Timing of recognition
  - e. Could we pass the 'winner' along to the national competition that Pradeep discussed (Advance CTE) and/or also IACTE, regional, and/or ACTE
    - i. May need to think about the award structure...one application with multiple areas
  - f. Concern: some ag ed advisory councils are run through local community college. (Kayla had this concern). School use various approaches: SIAC, CTE advisory council, community college, etc.
  - g. If intent is to have these go out with FFA convention awards, due date is 15 February. Usually distributed prior to holiday break, most people start after break.
    - i. Online submission is March--Tuesday after last district convention (14 March this year)
    - ii. Award at state FFA convention - 3rd general session, Tuesday, April 11 - session starts at 11am
    - iii. Deadline for application submission Feb. 15
    - iv. Items that require signature is mid-February

#### 9. Next steps

- a. **Dr. Martin:** provide the current application forms
- b. **Pradeep:** provide outline of Excellence in Action Award from the Advance CTE national group with the hope of pushing the state level winning application on for national consideration <https://careertech.org/excellence-action-award>
- c. **Will:** draft award form in online program (JotForm) to see if we can transition to an online application <https://form.jotform.com/wfett/excellence-in-agriculture>
- d. **Brea:** develop rubric to evaluate the applications
- e. **Pradeep:** Visit with IDOE/Phil Wise to ask about the situation in terms of not having a teacher educator on here the council but then having a person who is supposed to be both ex-officio and an actual voting member.
- f. **Will:** discuss problems with Iowa Code, structure of council, make up of council, etc. with Nathan Hohnstein of the Department of Boards and Commissions
- g. **Kala/Caitlin:** Review award application. Make suggestions on content, timeline, method of submission.
- h. **Pradeep/Rebecca:** Team aligned on 4th Monday of the months for January, March, June, September, and November. Rebecca will send out a Doodle poll to confirm time.
- i. **Pradeep:** Investigate what the procedure is for getting documents uploaded to the Boards and Commissions website:  
<https://openup.iowa.gov/board/189/Agricultural+Education,+Council+on/>
- j. **Pradeep:** Investigate how the \$10K allocated to programmatic work of this council can be spent. What do we need to do to get a contract set up?
- k. **All:** Review contact list and membership roster. Provide updates to Will Fett.

It was agreed upon that future meetings would be held on the fourth Monday of January, March, June, September, and November. Meeting dates would be: January 23, 2017; March 27, 2017; June 26, 2017; September 25, 2017; and November 27, 2017.

The next meeting will be January 23, 2017 at the FFA Enrichment Center in Ankeny. Conference line will be provided. Meeting will be in the afternoon with an exact time to be determined.

**The meeting was adjourned at 3:55pm.**